Minutes



City Council Minutes January 15, 2002

The Yukon City Council met in regular session on January 15, 2002, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Centennial Building, 12 South Fifth.

Invocation was given by John Miller, pastor of Christ's Church.

Flag salute was given in unison.

Roll Call: Present: Genie Vinson, Mayor

Ron Jurgensen, Vice Mayor John Weller, Council Member Dewayne Maxey, Council Member Earline Smaistrla, Council Member

Others Present: Jim Crosby, City Manager Pat Hargis, City Clerk Mike Segler, City Attorney Robbie Williams, City Engineer, Triad Design Group Tony Lum, Building Maintenance Ian Scott, Park and Recreation Director Tim Rundel, Personnel/Safety Director Ike Shirley, Police Chief J. R. Reed, Public Works Director Mitch Hort, Community Development Director Sheri Shoemaker, Park Department Jarrett Kelough, Park Department Joanne Oltmann, Park Department Quincy Rinkle, Park Department Chris Coleman, Park Department

Presentations and Proclamations

Visitors

Mayor Vinson stated she was glad to see Mark Kemerley in the audience tonight.

A) Judy Chancellor, Kingston Drive resident, stated that this January 8th was the warmest since the 1800s, and she took this opportunity to walk around the area on Garth Brooks Boulevard where they bulldozed down all the trees with a wildlife expert. She asked, "Where are the animals now?" Ms. Chancellor stated there needs to be a memorial erected for all the animals that were lost.

B) Fred Reeves, 201 Birch, stated that in September, approval was granted to enter into a Community Development Block Grant to address the water and sewer needs on the north side of town. Mr. Reeves stated the CDBG was to be a three year matching fund grant, and asked what the current status of this grant is. Mr. Reeves stated he felt that streets and drainage needs to be the priority in this area. He said the water and sewer are okay, as they worked on this area about 20-25 years ago. He further added that the drainage north of the railroad tracks is full of trees and rotten railroad ties and with the spring rains coming, it's going to flood this area.

Mr. Reeves said he also wanted to state he was opposed to item "D" on tonight's consent docket.

Mayor Vinson stated that he could address that when the item is discussed.

Tim Rundel, Administrative Officer, stated that the CDBG has been approved, and they will probably begin the first phase around October.

The City Manager advised the City plans to work on the roads in that area, but only after the water and sewer problems are addressed, because we don't want to repair roads, then have to cut them to work on the water and sewer lines.

John Knutson, 15250 Sunshine Road, said promises were made in 1997 to complete some road projects, and in 2002, they are still not done. He said he would like a report as to where we are on the road projects, stating "everyone there (on this road) is concerned with the road."

City Manager stated that the County Commissioners and the City have agreed to work on Richland Road, and they have a contract to do the overlay. Mr. Crosby said the county would have to mill the road, but they don't have time now. Mr. Crosby stated he had told the Commissioner that we would be glad to help pay for someone else to do the millwork if needed, and we have to do this project by June or July or we will lose the money. Mr. Crosby stated he was having lunch with Mr. Wallace tomorrow and would discuss this project and let Mr. Knutson know what he finds out after that.

Tim Ginter, 959 Heritage, stated he was told that repair of Wagner Road was in the budget, but this has not been done yet. Mr. Ginter said he visited with Tim Rundel about this and was told the same thing and that Mr. Rundel didn't know when it would be done.

Mr. Crosby said the engineer has been asked to re-bid this overlay program, but that some sections of Wagner Road are not covered in this project.

Engineer advised they will be bidding within the next 45 days.

The City Manager instructed the Engineer to notify Mr. Ginter when this is to be done.

Council Member Maxey stated the truck traffic on these roads is really tearing them up.

(Recess as Yukon City Council and Reconvene as Yukon Municipal Authority)

1A. YMA Consent Docket

This item is placed on the agenda so the Yukon Municipal Authority, by unanimous consent,

can designate those routine items they wish to be approved by one motion.

If one item does not meet with the approval of all Authority Members, that item will be heard in regular order.

The City Manager recommends a motion to:

A) Approve minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 2002

A motion was made by Trustee Weller, seconded by Trustee Maxey, to approve the YMA Consent Docket as presented.

The vote:

AYES: Weller, Smaistrla, Vinson, Jurgensen, Maxey

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

(Recess as YMA and Reconvene as Yukon City Council)

1. Consent Docket

This item Is placed on the agenda so the City Council, by unanimous consent, can designate those routine items they wish to be approved by one motion. If one item does not meet with the approval of all Council Members, that item will be heard in regular order.

The City Manager recommends a motion that will approve:

- A) Minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 2002
- B) Salary and material claims in the amount of \$90,609.01
- C) Recommendation of the Police Chief to reject bid from SafetCom, Inc. for outdoor warning siren system
- D) Entering into an interlocal agreement by and between the City of Yukon and the Board of County Commissioners to assist the City of Yukon with dirt and drainage work on the L. Carroll Taylor Park
- E) Setting date for the next regular Council meeting for February 6, 2002, 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Centennial Building, 12 South Fifth

Mayor Vinson stated that Item D will be pulled and heard separately.

Council Member Weller made a motion to approve Items A, B, C, and E of the consent docket. Second was made by Council Member Maxey.

The vote:

AYES: Smaistrla, Weller, Vinson, Maxey, Jurgensen

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

Item D) Entering into an interlocal agreement by and between the City of Yukon and the Board of County Commissioners to assist the City of Yukon with dirt and drainage work on the L. Carroll Taylor Park

A motion was made by Council Member Weller, seconded by Council Member Maxey, to approve entering into an interlocal agreement by and between the City of Yukon and the

Board of County Commissioners to assist the City of Yukon with dirt and drainage work on the L. Carroll Taylor Park.

- 1) Joe Edwards, 1124 Camelot, stated he was the Ward 1 representative to the Park Board and he was also on the Yukon Athletic Foundation's board. Mr. Edwards stated the Foundation had a meeting and requested that one member from each sports organization attend in an effort to explore the solution to the sports facility situation. Mr. Edwards stated that each agreed that all the facilities are over-burdened. Seeing that, he stated that as a citizen, he wanted to find out the status of the park develop-ment, and the Foundation has a plan to develop that park. Mr. Edwards stated there is a great need for the park, and they had to go to the school for Yukon's flag football, the soccer club is playing on private land that is up for sale, and when sold, 250+ kids will be displaced. Mr. Edwards stated they just want the City to help the Foundation grow this into something we can all be proud of, and that it is for the future of our kids.
- 2) David Landes, 900 Creekwood, said this type of sports park has been his dream for a long time. Mr. Landes advised that Yukon is land-locked and there are not many places for the kids to practice sports. He said if the County could help them, it would be "a crime to turn them down." Mr. Landes stated he has seen what a city and group working together has done to a park south of Yukon and it is great. He asked where else this group could find land at this price. Mr. Landes stated at one time there was over 600 kids in the soccer club and our town is growing, so there will be more kids. He stated we don't want the kids having to leave Yukon and go to Oklahoma City to play. Mr. Landes urged the Council to accept the County Commissioner's offer of help, stating the park is desperately needed. He asked where the kids will go when the land on Cornwell is sold.
- 3) Kelle Freels, John F. Kroutil, stated she was a representative for the BMX club that hopes to be part of this park. She stated they now practice and race on south Western and riders are afraid to go down there because of the transients, prostitution and drugs that goes on in the area. Mrs. Freels said they hold big races, bringing in out of state participants that will stay in Yukon hotels and shop in Yukon businesses. Ms. Freels said the BMX club has their own insurance to cover the events, as well as a \$10,000 grant to cover the cost of building the track. She stated they are not asking for a handout; they will do fund raisers or whatever is needed to pay for their needs.
- 4) Jim McIntyre, 409 Palais Drive, said the land is in the wrong place for a park. He said if we can't fix city streets, why spend money for this. Mr. McIntyre also questioned why it is being called "Taylor" park.

Mayor Vinson stated the seller's name was Taylor and this was one of the stipulations of the sale.

- Mr. McIntyre said this would cause too much of a traffic problem in this area and the majority of the kids using it would be from outside the Yukon area. He continued that Yukon citizens are suffering due to Oklahoma City's large housing additions and we have to take care of their kids.
- 5) Tim Smith, Oklahoma City resident, stated he is a BMX dad and has been involved with this sport since 1993. He said at their current location, gangs, prostitutes and drugs infest the area and they have had equipment stolen. He stated they have a grant and all they are waiting on is for the Council to give the okay. He said he could guarantee that 240 or more kids from outside of Yukon will be coming in and their parents will be spending their money

on groceries, restaurants, hotels, gasoline and just shopping in Yukon.

- 6) Dennis Christy, 330 Wagner Road, appeared before the Council and stated he was president of the Yukon Athletic Foundation. Mr. Christy said they realize the citizens have voted not to spend money to develop this park, but the Foundation is asking the Council to give this volunteer organization a chance to finish something the City started by helping them with the preliminary dirt work. Mr. Christy said the Yukon Athletic Foundation is asking for the City Council's support.
- 7) Joe Edwards reappeared before the Council and said that Mr. McIntyre has a mis-conception of what the Foundation is asking for. Mr. Edwards said the Foundation only wants help with this interlocal agreement with the County, and the Foundation is in the process of seeking corporate money and grants, etc.; they are not asking the city for a lot of money.
- 8) Tim Baker, 4709 Deer Creek, asked what the cost to the City would be. He stated there is a need for more soccer fields, and the school doesn't allow play on their fields outside of school sponsored events. Mr. Baker said this is a good deal for other activities, also, and there are lots of parks built in flood zones and that it is okay to do so.

City Manager Crosby stated he doesn't know exactly what the cost would be, but probably anywhere from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Mr. Baker said this would improve the drainage not only at the park, but in the general area as a whole.

- 9) Keith Green, 312 Kings Canyon, appeared and stated he would reiterate what the other supporters have said. He said that the soccer club is having to charge dues to pay for the property they lease to practice on and they are the only sport having to pay for practice fields. He stated this organization would just like to have what the other sports clubs in town have. Mr. Green said there is no room at the Cornwell location to add teams, as there are currently 600+ kids playing soccer, with over 200 on a waiting list to play if and when there is room.
- 10) John Knutson, Sunshine Road, said that there is a history of this property and the people spoke volumes to not expend tax dollars on it. He said the agreement was to have private funds spent on this. Mr. Knutson said he didn't even know this item was on the agenda tonight, plus the fact that it's on the consent docket, it makes him believe this item should be postponed until we can look further into it.
- 11) Jim McIntyre reappeared before the Council and said he is not against the field if the money to build it is donated. He said that "we spent \$900,000 for the land and we don't need to keep spending money on it."

Mayor Vinson advised Mr. McIntyre that we only paid \$92,000 for the property and the issue put to a vote of the people was to expend \$3.5 million to expand and build the facility.

Mr. McIntyre asked how the people will get there - he said the streets are already horrible and need to be improved and a park in that area would only cause more problems. He said people would also be parking in the street.

12) David Landes said he had a rebuttal for Mr. McIntyre. He said when they obtained the

land on Cornwell, they were told the street was too busy, there was no parking, too much traffic, and the land needed to be cleared. He said they went ahead with their plans to improve the land and use it for practice fields and there has never been a problem. Mr. Landes stated there is no argument that this is area is better today.

13) Arch Tredway, 855 North 11th Street, said he thought the City was paying to have clean up done on this land. He said in the last 18 months, they only mowed 20 of the 90 acres of the property twice. Mr. Tredway said that he does not feel that \$5,000 will be enough to do proper drainage work in this area and we owe it to the voters to listen to them.

Mayor Vinson read the interlocal agreement between the City of Yukon and Canadian County Commissioners.

14) Lisa Key, 1300 Viola, said she would like to see the City be pro-active and not re-active. She asked what would we tell these kids when the property sells and there is no place for them to play? Mrs. Key further stated that \$5,000 to \$20,000 is not a lot of money to invest in a kid's future. Mrs. Key continued that this proposed sports complex should generate money and it will bring money into Yukon. Mrs. Key asked why we couldn't give soccer kids the land and why they must pay for a practice area. She said to let the parents work on the field to improve it so they won't have to be out any more money.

Vice Mayor Jurgensen said that he wanted to speak on behalf of the 70% who voted against this, and reminded that he took a recall of office for his stance on the issue. Mr. Jurgensen said that the City Manager said we wouldn't spend tax money on this when it first came up. He said that this has been voted down twice and he does not feel that five people on this council should make all the decisions. Mr. Jurgensen said the voters need to look very hard at the April election. Vice Mayor Jurgensen said he thinks we should table this issue and not vote tonight because we have two council members who will be leaving and we should wait until there is a new Council with interest in this.

Mayor Vinson said that in the mid-1960's, Forrest Lawson was Mayor and they acquired land for the Community Center and land where the Freedom Trail now sits, and that Council took a lot of heat for buying too much park land. Mayor Vinson said to think of that from today's perspective. She said that today's vote needs to be for the good of Yukon in forty years, not just for now.

The vote on the motion was taken:

AYES: Maxey, Vinson, Weller, Smaistrla

NAYS: Jurgensen

VOTE: 4-1

MOTION CARRIED

Council Member Weller stated he was not opposed to the BMX track, but thinks the people need to reconsider a 24-hour operation due to the neighbors. He stated the hours should be limited so as not to disrupt the area.

2. Report of Boards, Commissions and City Officials

Ken Baker, transfer station committee chairman, stated they had their second meeting last week and Council Member Smaistrla was there, as was David Griesel. Mr. Baker stated they learned more about OEMA, and Mr. Griesel advised them that our rates may have to be increased if other haulers don't utilize this transfer station. Mr. Baker said allowing others

to use this facility was one of the people's concerns.

3. Consider awarding bid for Public Works radios

Vice Mayor Jurgensen made a motion to award the bid for the Public Works radios to the low bidder, Bolay Communications. Second was made by Council Member Weller.

The vote:

AYES: Vinson, Jurgensen, Maxey, Smaistrla, Weller

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

4. A) Consider approving Ordinance No. 1093 which provides amendment to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Yukon, Oklahoma by amending Section 34-51(A) of the Code of Ordinances by providing imprisonment for ten (10) days in the city lock up facility, and declaring an emergency

Ordinance No. 1093 was read by Mayor Vinson. Motion to approve was made by Council Member Maxey; seconded by Vice Mayor Jurgensen.

Council Member Weller asked for an explanation of why this was necessary. City Attorney Mike Segler advised our current ordinance only allows us to jail a person for 48 hours, but this change would allow the judge to jail an individual up to 10 days, which is the maximum time for our holding facility.

A roll call vote was held.

AYES: Weller, Maxey, Jurgensen, Vinson, Smaistrla

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

B) Consider approving emergency clause of Ordinance No. 1093

Council Member Maxey made a motion to approve the emergency clause of Ordinance No. 1093. Second was made by Vice Mayor Jurgensen.

The vote:

AYES: Smaistrla, Weller, Maxey, Vinson, Jurgensen

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

5. A) Consider approving Ordinance No. 1094, which provides amendment to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Yukon, Oklahoma by amend-ing Section 1-7 of the Code of Ordinances to provide for imprison-ment and declaring an emergency

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 1094 was made by Council Member Maxey, with the second being made by Council Member Smaistrla.

Police Chief Ike Shirley said this ordinance is just bringing us in line with state statutes.

The vote:

AYES: Maxey, Weller, Jurgensen, Smaistrla, Vinson

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

B) Consider approving emergency clause of Ordinance No. 1094

Council Member Maxey made a motion to approve the emergency clause of Ordinance No. 1094; Vice Mayor Jurgensen seconded.

The vote:

AYES: Jurgensen, Smaistrla, Vinson, Maxey, Weller

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

6. Consider approving Resolution No. 2002-03, requesting ODOT to lower the speed limit from 60 MPH to 55 MPH on S.H. 66 from Mustang Road to the east City limits

Council Member Weller made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2002-03, requesting ODOT to lower the speed limit from 60 MPH to 55 MPH on S.H. 66 from Mustang Road to the east City limits. Second was made by Council Member Smaistrla.

The vote:

AYES: Jurgensen, Smaistrla, Vinson, Maxey, Weller

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

7. Consider approving Resolution No. 2002-02, authorizing the calling and holding of an election in the City of Yukon, Canadian County, Oklahoma for the purpose of electing one council member from Ward 3 and one council member from Ward 4, each for a three year term

Council Member Weller made a motion approving Resolution No. 2002-02, authorizing the calling and holding of an election in the City of Yukon, Canadian County, Oklahoma for the purpose of electing one council member from Ward 3 and one council member from Ward 4, each for a three year term. Council Member Smaistrla seconded the motion.

Fenton Ramey, Five South Fifth, asked why Ward 1 was not on the resolution for a council member to be elected.

City Attorney stated it was his opinion that she was appointed to "fill the remainder of the term."

Mr. Ramey asked if this was a written or verbal opinion.

Mr. Segler stated it was verbal.

Mr. Ramey asked if this meant that they would need to go to the Attorney General to get an election for this ward.

Mr. Segler replied if this was needed.

Mr. Ramey asked Mayor Vinson if she was going to follow the City Attorney's opinion.

Mayor Vinson stated, "Yes, I will follow the City Attorney's opinion."

Ken Baker, Tim Moore, and Robert Gadberry appeared before the Council and stated they felt it was necessary that this position be voted on. All agreed that their opinion had nothing to do with the job that Council Member Smaistrla is doing, but rather the fact that she was an "appointed" member rather than "elected."

The vote on the motion:

AYES: Vinson, Maxey, Smaistrla, Weller, Jurgensen

NAYS: None VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

8. New Business

9. Council Discussion

Vice Mayor Jurgensen said he hopes it is now clear that the City had nothing to do with the tree removal on Garth Brooks Boulevard. Mr. Jurgensen questioned why a private enterprise hasn't developed the sports park if this would be such a money maker. He also stated he wanted to apologize to the voters who said "no" to this issue.

Council Member Weller stated he agrees with Mr. Jurgensen regarding the trees, but not the park. Mr. Weller said he has talked to a lot of people who are interested in this sports complex and we continue to lose places to practice and play. Mr. Weller said the Foundation is not asking them to build the park, but to help them get started. Mr. Weller added that this is for the kids and is very worthwhile.

Council Member Maxey said he wanted to thank Tim Moore for his Letter to the Editor. He said he knows it probably was not meant to make him feel good, but it did.

Mr. Moore said, "That's what you get for supporting the transfer station."

Council Member Smaistrla reminded everyone about donating your old cell phones for senior citizens. Ms. Smaistrla said she would rather apologize to the citizens for voting against their wishes than apologize to the parents when kids end up in reform school or something because they had nothing to do. Council Member Smaistrla said this is for our kids and they are our future.

Mayor Vinson said she wanted to address the people who did not vote last Tuesday. She said this is their right and privilege and their responsibility and duty to vote. Mrs. Vinson said if you do not vote, that is lazy and irresponsible behavior and you are letting someone else make the decisions that concern you and your family. Mrs. Vinson said only 1700 people made the decisions for you last week and this is less than 10% of the citizens who could have voted. Mayor Vinson stated, "If you did not vote, shame on you."

10.	Adjournment
Genie	Vinson, Mayor
Patrio	cia G. Hargis, City Clerk

10.

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